

TELEGRAM (Secret Cipher Process)

Tokyo, 25 July 1941 6.20  
Arrived, 25 July 1941 21.30 hours

No. 1355 of 25 July

Most Urgent

Simultaneously for the Supreme Headquarters of the Wehrmacht and Supreme Army Headquarters.

- 1) The draft of reserves slowly beginning in Japan and Manchukuo on 10 July and the following days, suddenly reached a large and no longer concealable extent, especially in the 1st, 4th, 7th, 12th and 16th division, and continued until today in decreased strength. Until the middle of August supposedly about 900,000 (nine hundred thousand) reservists are to be drafted, that is the 24 to 45 year olds; among the eldest, however, only specialists like drivers, technicians, people able to speak Russian, etc. After that, another 500,000 (five hundred thousand) reservists, are supposedly available.
- 2) Together with the drafting of the reservists on 10 July /orders came for/ a draft of horses, motor vehicles, etc., and a little later, instructions to firms to provide military goods of consumption, like foodstuffs, candles, and others till the end of September at the latest.
- 3) On 11 (12) July limitation of the use of foreign languages in the teletype and telephone communications. In addition, starting 20 July mail censorship on foreigners' letters, also within Japan.
- 4) Since 12 July prohibiting of travel by railway, ship, and airplane for foreigners on gradually all along distance lines within Japan and to Korea, China, Formosa. Japanese are also prohibited from entering Sachalin. Japanese students have to remain in the vicinity of their residence.
- 5) Since about 10 July transporting of troops, beginning with Quartermaster troops, technician troops and artillery of the 16th and 1st division and transport of reservists from Japan. Goal: Seishin and Rashin for troops and reservists, Tientsin and Shanghai only for reservists.

- 6) Since the middle of July preparation in Manchuria for billeting and the arrival of troop transports. In addition increased transport of military goods, which may be interpreted as the establishing of supply bases.
- 7) My impression:
  - a) Besides the increase of Japanese troops in Manchuria and probably also in North China, a new army group is being formed in Korea.
  - b) According to conversations with officers of the General Staff, besides the Japanese forces in Manchuria and Korea apparently also parts of the North China Army are to be used for action against the Soviet Union. No clarity regarding the Japanese operations plan. But it is probable that it will not be limited only to an attack on the Vladivostok area and in a northerly direction, but will also simultaneously start in the direction of Lake Baikal, along the Manchurian Railroad, through Chita, and from the area of Kalgan through Outer Mongolia.
  - c) Time of start /of operations/ unknown. One fact which might bear this out is that, in my opinion, the deployment of troops will take until about the middle of August, and that General OKAMOTO several times mentioned in his conversations that Japan would only start when the German units had reached the Volga.

KRETSCHMAR

OTT

Note: Forwarded through the teletype office to the code-clerk of the Headquarters of the WEHRMACHT  
Tel. Ktr. 26 July 1941.

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AFFIDAVIT

I, W. P. Cumming, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say:

1. That I am an Attache of the United States Department of State on the Staff of the United States Political Adviser on German Affairs, and as such I am a representative of the Office of Military Government for Germany (U.S.). That in my capacity as above set forth, I have in my possession, custody and control at the Berlin Documents Center, Berlin, Germany, the original captured German Foreign Office files and archives.

2. That said original Foreign Office files and archives were captured and obtained by military forces under the command of the Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Forces, and upon their seizure and capture were first assembled by said military forces at a Military Document Center at Marburg, Germany, and were later moved by authorized personnel of said Allied forces to said central documents center, above referred to, and known as the Berlin Documents Center.

3. That I was assigned to said document center at Marburg, Germany, on August 15, 1945, and said captured German Foreign Office files and archives first came into my possession and control while I was stationed at Marburg, Germany, and that thereafter the same have continued in my possession and custody and under my control.

4. That the document to which this affidavit is attached is a true and correct photostatic copy of an original German Foreign Office document which was captured from said German Foreign Office files and archives, and which came into my possession and custody and under my control in the manner above set forth.

5. That said original document, of which the attached is a photostatic copy, is being held and retained by me in order that it may be examined and inspected by various interested agencies, and a photostatic copy of said original is hereby furnished and certified to because of the unavailability of said original for the reasons above set forth.

/s/ W. P. Cumming  
W. P. CUMMING

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23rd day of April 1946.

/s/ G. H. Garde  
G. H. GARDE  
Lt. Colonel, AGD  
Acting Adjutant General

OFFICE OF MILITARY  
GOVERNMENT FOR GERMANY (U.S.)

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